The Consolidation Plan of 1898 merged Manhattan with four other boroughs to become “Greater New York.” All other boroughs being merged with New York were in favor of consolidation all except for one. The exception being Brooklyn. Brooklyn had members of its society, who were strongly against the Consolidation Plan. Consolidation left New York able to grow and adapt. The Consolidation Plan paved the way for the future of the new “Greater New York.”

Manhattan was the original “New York”. Manhattan gained dominance over Brooklyn through the Dongan Charter and the Montgomerie Charter. Manhattan still had dominance over Brooklyn even after it became a city. Brooklyn became a city in 1830 and NY (Manhattan) still had all their privileges. Eventually as time progressed Brooklyn was able to gain independence form Manhattan thanks to its Community Leaders.

In 1857, the state combined Manhattan and Brooklyn’s police, fire, and health departments into joint metropolitan boards. People were optimistic that this combination would evolve into a more systematic consolidation. Of the people in favor of consolidation the most important would have to be Andrew H. Green, who became the president of the Commissions Council.

Some people from Brooklyn were against consolidation. They felt as though they were victims of an imperial expansion. There were many who tried to stop consolidation but were unable to stop it from pressing forward into existence. Even some of the consolidation sponsor’s were worried and uneasy about the future after consolidation. Brooklynites felt as thought they had nothing in common with Manhattan. One man who opposed the consolidation of Brooklyn with New York was Paul H. Kretzschmar, supervisor at large at Kings County, who felt that the consolidation would be a blow at the principal of home rule.

Some people in favor of consolidation were Anthony R Dyett, Henry W. Slocum, Henry E.A. Bradford, and of course the most important Andrew H. Green. Anthony R Dyett believed that the Consolidation Plan would greatly benefit New York and he hoped that it would decrease property values. Mr. Slocum was in favor of the plan because he thought it would be good for the moral and political good of the community. Bradford believed that it would bring salvation to New believed that it would bring salvation to New York. Andrew H Green was the person who introduced the bill of consolidation to Albany and the commissions there were in favor of it.

The plan paved the way for the future of New York in a variety of ways. The stimulation of activities would stem from consolidation such as the bridging and tunneling of waters which divide the metropolis. Communication would be easier due to changes cause by the plan and New York would be led to growth and prosperity.

The Greater New York bill came into the senate in Albany, January 25, 1898. The bill was brought by Senator Aspinall. Consolidation was in such high favor that the petitions for it contained over 20,000 signatures with also many more in favor. The bill made it s that refusal by any town affected to vote in favor of consolidation would not affect the main purpose of the bill.

In everything but name and political organization the community is one. The area is one of interest and destiny, wherein prosperity of the whole depends on common activity. There is no difference in rights or interests by people separated by lines of jurisdiction. The goal of consolidation was to “bring the population together under one system of administration, properly devised for the regulation of affairs belonging to the whole community and its various parts, would undoubtedly in the long run, be productive of great improvement methods and results”(The Future Metropolis.)